

In re: Justice et al.
Serial No.: 09/854,649
Filed: May 14, 2001
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REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Office Action of July 19, 2004 (hereinafter "Office Action"). Applicants especially appreciate the allowance of Claims 1 - 16 and 22 - 42 and the indication that Claims 18 - 21 recite patentable subject matter. Accordingly, the sole remaining issue is the patentability of Claim 17. In response, Applicants have amended Claim 17 to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested for at least the reasons discussed hereafter.

Claim 17 Satisfies the Requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112

Independent Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶1, as being of undue breadth because it has a single means recitation. (Office Action, page 2). In response, Applicants have amended Claim 17 to include the additional means recitation: "means for providing a signal." Applicants note that this amendment to Claim 17 has been made for purposes of overcoming a §112 rejection; therefore, no limitation of the scope of equivalents is implied.

Applicants maintain that Claim 17, as amended, complies with 35 U.S.C. §112 and respectfully requests that the §112 rejection with respect to Claim 17 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-entitled application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,



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